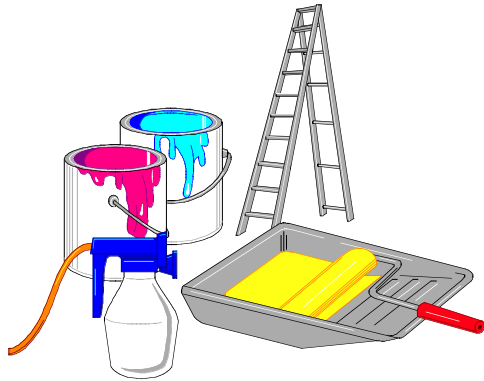


# Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives



## Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry

### Storm Drain Pollution Prevention: It's Up to Us

In Alameda County, storm drains flow directly to local creeks and San Francisco Bay, with no treatment. Storm water pollution is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for the people who live near streams or baylands. Common sources of this pollution are oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris and dirt; landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and other materials that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.

The County and its 14 cities have joined together with Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District to educate local residents and businesses and fight storm drain pollution. We hope you will join us, by using the practices described in this pamphlet.



Alameda Countywide  
Clean Water Program  
A Consortium of Local Agencies

### Who should use this brochure?

Painters  
Paperhangers  
Plasterers  
Graphic artists  
Dry wall crews  
Floor covering installers  
General contractors  
Home builders  
Developers

## Urban Runoff Control Program

All of the cities within Alameda County have adopted Ordinances for "Storm Water Management and Discharge Control." In order to comply with state and federal law, these Ordinances prohibit most non-storm water discharges, including those from painting operations and painting clean-up. The Ordinance also requires anyone engaged in an activity that might pollute storm water to take all practicable measures to reduce pollutants.

For information on the urban runoff pollution control program in your area, contact:

City of Fremont Clean Water Program  
494-4700

Development Services Center  
Planning & Building Permits Info  
494-4443

CAL MAX  
(Recycling of Building Materials)  
(916) 255-2369

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has issued a General NPDES Permit for storm water discharges associated with construction activity. Your construction project may need to be covered under the General Permit. To obtain coverage, you must file a Notice of Intent (NOI). For more information call the State Water Board's Construction Activity Storm Water Hotline at (916) 657-1146.

The Alameda Countywide Clean Water Program gratefully acknowledges Santa Clara Valley Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program for this brochure's concept and design.

## Storm Drain Pollution from Paints, Solvents, and Adhesives

All paints, solvents, and adhesives contain chemicals that are harmful to the wildlife in our creeks and Bay. These toxic chemicals may come from liquids, solid products, cleaning residues, or rags. Liquid residues from paint thinners, solvents, glues and cleaning fluids are hazardous wastes.

## What Can You Do?

Keep all liquid paint products and wastes away from the gutter and storm drain facilities. Do not clean brushes, rollers or containers into any storm drain facility. When thoroughly dry, empty paint cans, spent brushes, rags, and drop cloths may be disposed of as trash.

### Paint Removal

- ☐ Chemical paint stripping residue is a hazardous waste. Collect and dispose of residue at a hazardous waste collection facility.
- ☐ When stripping or cleaning building exteriors with high-pressure water, block storm drains and direct wash water onto a dirt area. If there is no sizeable landscape or dirt area, check with your local waste water treatment authority for permission to discharge to sanitary sewer.
- ☐ When cleaning rain gutters - use a sock of geotextile fabric at downspouts to filter out chips and particles.
- ☐ Use plastic sheeting or drop cloth to collect chips and dust from non-hazardous dry stripping and sand blasting. Sweep up and dispose of debris as trash.
- ☐ Chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead or tributyl tin are hazardous wastes. Dry sweep and dispose of appropriately.



### Paint Operation

- ☐ Mix paints indoors if possible and always on a drop cloth or tarp.
- ☐ Buy only the amount of paint needed for the job.
- ☐ Use latex or the least hazardous paint.
- ☐ Follow directions carefully.
- ☐ Use equipment that is most efficient at getting paint on the surface (minimize overspray). When possible, enclose paint operation with scaffolding close to the job. Use drop cloths draped over scaffolding to reduce area of paint spray.
- ☐ Don't spray in windy conditions.
- ☐ When sealants are used on wood, pavement, roofs, etc., quickly clean up any spills. Remove excess liquid with absorbents or rags.
- ☐ Train employees and subcontractors in these methods.



## Painting Cleanup

- ☐ Never clean brushes or rinse paint containers into a street gutter, storm drain, stream, or on the ground.
- ☐ For water-based paints, paint out brushes and rinse to the sanitary sewer.
- ☐ For oil-based paints, paint out brushes before cleaning in a thinner or solvent. Filter and reuse thinners and solvents. Dispose of excess liquids and residue as hazardous waste.

### Recycle/Reuse Leftover Paints Whenever Possible

- ☐ Completely use up or recycle excess water based paint. Paint can be recycled at the Household Hazardous Waste Center by calling for an appointment. [(800) 606-6606]
- ☐ Dispose of excess oil based paint, solvents and sludges as hazardous waste.
- ☐ NEVER pour any paint into the storm drain or the sanitary sewer.
- ☐ Water based paints can be painted onto a drop cloth and disposed of in the trash when dry.

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures for specific types of construction industry activities. Other pamphlets include:

*General Construction and Site Supervision*

*Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application*

*Roadwork and Paving*

*Heavy Equipment Operation*

